

# Minutes for AAPT-CPS Executive Committee Session

## University of Scranton, Fall 2015 Executive Meeting

### October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

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#### Call to Order

An executive committee meeting of the AAPT-CPS was held on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. It began at 11:00am and was presided over by Mehmet Goksu, President, with Nicholas Truncale as Secretary taking minutes.

#### Attendees

Executive Board members in attendance were Mehmet Goksu, Abaz Kryemadhi, Nicholas Truncale, Dave McCachren, Michael Gallis, John Reid, Gregory Dolise, Chris Shope, Kelly Kriebel

#### Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous spring 2015 executive committee meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at Messiah College was made by Abaz Kryemadhi. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

#### Officers' Reports

President's Report was presented by Mehmet Goksu

Thanked Nick for hosting fall PTRAs workshop, Dave for running the PTRAs workshop, and Kelly for agreeing to host the spring 2016 annual AAPT-CPS conference at Moravian

President's Report was presented by Abaz Kryemadhi

Debrief of spring 2015 AAPT-CPS conference: 50 attendees, 12 PTRAs participants (only 1 stayed for conference), 10-12 students. One of the PTRAs attendees did not pay. Abaz tried to collect, but was unsuccessful. Dave said that this is very uncharacteristic of the norm. Abaz suggests that all participants pay up front. Mehmet will try a "President's Email" to try and collect the money one last time. We do not want to push too hard. We collected 26 NEW membership fees at the conference. A discussion about liability ensued about possibly needing it for future conference. A cost discussion about conferences: Mike said historically the host does cover some costs including reserving room fees, some food, etc. It was also brought up that there are new state laws about having minors on campus. Any liability issues should be taken up by the hosting institutions liability guide for meetings.

Treasurer's Report (absent)

A discussion about who has access to the bank account occurred. The secretary position used to be a secretary/treasurer position. This was changed so that the treasurer was made a separate position so the bank account names do not have to change every year. Mehmet was going to figure out who has access to the accounts other than Sadari. Possibly the current President can be added as a secondary account name in the future.

Section Representative's Report was presented by Michael Gallis

The AAPT legislative body was reorganized. The section representative issue was further discussed. Representatives will be partially reimbursed for the winter meeting. Area chairs have more power because section representatives are losing some voting power. Mike is now the Vice-chair of the outreach committee.

The AAPT is searching for national meeting sites. Some criteria include facilities, hotel availability, close access to a reasonably sized airport, and they plan these 3 years ahead of time and will begin to plan 4-5 years ahead of time.

There is a new member in the section and a discussion about how best to reach out to that person ensued. It was suggested the President craft a letter to send to the new member and give that member a free 1 year membership in AAPT-CPS.

Mike said he would get the spring CPS conference to appear in "The Physics Teacher" so that there is an advertisement. A possible joint meeting with the western PA section was discussed. Last time it happened in State College. Suggested sites would be Altoona or Lycoming. It was suggested the fall 2016 PTRAs and executive meeting happen at HACCC. Greg will further look into this possibility.

Two Year College's Report was presented by Gregory Dolise  
Submitted in writing, summary:

Continues to have issues finding email address on school and university websites. HACC is having some success in getting students to participate in research projects. Continued frustration with new 14+1 schedule at HACC causing extreme loss in class instruction time. Science Olympiad is coming up. HACC is revising graduation requirements. Greg attended the AAPT national meeting in University Park Maryland.

Webmaster's Report was presented by John Reid

The spring 2016 conference information will be added to the front page of the site. Various file, folders, and other site updates were made and details submitted to the group. John will set up online registration for the spring 2016 conference.

Chris thanked John for picking up the slack while he was recuperating. He looked up WordPress sites and he recommended keeping the current site and hosting service for the time being. He is going to look for a new host that has a price closer to \$60/month. He is looking at google spreadsheets for meeting attendees. Abaz has a ~200 person email list that is of most active members.

Secretary's Report was presented by Nicholas Truncale

Nicholas thanked Dave, Pat, and guest host Jeff Wetherford for leading the PTRAs workshop. I think it was a success. Nicholas mentioned there is at least one student preparing to present at the spring 2016 conference from the University of Scranton. A new Scranton faculty member will also attend.

High School Representative's Report was presented by Dave McCachren

Dave offered a thank you to the section for hosting the PTRAs workshops. He thought the fall workshop was great with 7 participants. He suggested informing the high school teachers at an earlier date so they can get funding and put in a request to their district. He said we should continue to advertise for both spring and fall workshops at the same time so teachers can ask for both at the same time. Pat and Dave do the most workshops nationally.

Next PTRAs: Spring 2016 PTRAs Workshop: NASA Resources and Rocket Science 101, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Moravian College.

Spring 2016 Conference: was presented by Kelly Kriebel

The date for the conference is April 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 with Terry Hart as the plenary speaker. Terry is a former astronaut which fits well with the topic of "Rocket Science" for the spring PTRAs workshop. Kelly said there are no charges for reserving rooms. The cost of the banquet will be around \$20-25 per person. Hotels are a little further away but are very reasonable.

Old Business: none

New Business:

The email list will need to be updated with conference participants of 2016. A discussion about how best to advertise for the spring 2016 meeting ensued. The discussion revolved around whether to send a physical mailer or just do an email. Abaz and Nick suggested doing only an email, but there were good points made by Greg as to why we should keep the mailer. This business was tabled for the next executive meeting and Kelly, as host of the next conference, will decide how best to advertise.

**Announcements**

Future Meetings:

Spring 2016 Conference and PTRA Workshop – Moravian College  
Fall 2016 Executive Meeting and PTRA Workshop – TBA (possibly HACCC)

**Adjournment**

Mehmet moved that the meeting be adjourned, and this was agreed upon at 2:07pm

Respectively Submitted by:

Nicholas P. Truncale

Secretary

AAPT-CPS

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Date of Approval